

Message Text

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ACTION AF-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /004 W

----- 009692

O R 261852Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 862

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2222

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA CALLS FOR CHANGE IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA

FOR IBS/NCA COVERAGE

PASS IBS/PA PASS IPS

INFO STATE AF/E

LUSAKA, OCTOBER 26 -- IN A MAJOR ADDRESS DELIVERED THIS
MORNING ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA CALLED ON THE
WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA TO REASSESS
THEIR SITUATIONS IN LIGHT OF PRESENT REALITIES IN THE SUB-
CONTINENT.

DR. KAUNDA, ADDRESSING A DISTINGUISHED GATHERING AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA WHERE HE WAS TODAY AWARDED AN HONORARY
DOCTOR OF LAW DEGREE, CALLED ON THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND
RHODESIAN GOVERNMENTS TO SEEK POLITICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE
PROBLEMS IN THEIR COUNTRIES AND IN NAMIBIA. HE NOTED THAT
EVER SINCE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO ON
SOUTHERN AFRICA IN 1969 THE OPTIONS FOR SOLVING SOUTHERN
AFRICAN PROBLEMS HAD BEEN CLEARLY A CHOICE BETWEEN VIOLENT
OR PEACEFUL CHANGE. DR. KAUNDA NOTED THAT THE CHOISE TO
TAKE UP ARMS IN MOZAMBIQUE, RHODESIA, NAMIBIA AND ANGOLA
HAD BEEN MADE ONLY AFTER AVENUES OF PEACEFUL CHANGE WERE
CLOSED TO THE VAST MAJORITIES IN THOSE COUNTRIES.

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COMMENTING ON SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S RECENT

PLEDGE TO WORK FOR PEACE, PROGRESS, AND DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, DR. KAUNDA SAID "THIS IS THE VOICE OF REASON FOR WHICH AFRICA AND THE WORLD HAVE WAITED FOR MANY YEARS." HE SAID IF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS READY TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF PEACE FOR THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN IN THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO, AFRICA STANDS READY TO HELP CREATE CONDITIONS FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE. DR. KAUNDA SAID "WE DO NOT DESIRE TO SEE AN ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH AN ESCALATION ARE TOO GRAVE BOTH IN MATERIAL AND HUMAN SACRIFICE TO BE PERMITTED EITHER BY DESIGN OR DEFAULT." THE MAJOR OBSTACLES BETWEEN PEACE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICAN AND THE PEOPLE OF THE REST OF AFRICA ARE RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA, SAID DR. KAUNDA, AND "UNLESS THESE OBSTACLES ARE REMOVED THE BASIC CAUSES OF CONFLICT WILL REMAIN, WITH ALL THE CONSEQUENCES ALREADY FAMILIAR TO ALL OF US."

DR. KAUNDA SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS EITHER AN AFRICAN COUNTRY WITH OBLIGATIONS TOWARD PEACE, FREEDOM, AND UNITY LIKE OTHER NATIONS ON THE CONTINENT OR A COUNTRY IN AFRICA WITH IS EUROPEAN IN ITS OBJECTIVES. COMMENTING ON PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT SOUTH AFRICA MUST PROJECT ITS FUTURE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AFRICA PRESIDENT KAUNDA SAID "WE DO NOT QUARREL ABOUT THE RIGHTS OF THE WHITE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CHOSEN AFRICA TO BE THEIR HOME WE DO NOT QUESTION THE RIGHTS OF WHITES IN SOUTH AFRICA. WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS THEIR CLAIM TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO DOMINATE OTHERS ON THE BASIS OF COLOR."

PRESIDENT KAUNDA SAID THERE IS NO EXTERNAL THREAT TO SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY AND NO BASIS FOR THE SAG TO CHOOSE THE ROAD TO CONFLICT. HE CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN RHODESIA STATING, "THIS WOULD OPEN THE WAY TO THE SOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM, "AND ADDING, "IF SOUTH AFRICA WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BLACK GOVERNMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE, NOT AS A TRAGEDY BUT AS A CHALLENGE, THEN POLITICAL CHANGE IN RHODESIA CANNOT BE OTHERWISE."

"THIS IS A TIME OF GREAT CHALLENGE FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA," SAID DR. KAUNDA. "NO ONE WILL SOLVE THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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PROBLEMS. AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILL NOT TAKE ARMS AND FIGHT A WAR AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. THIS DID NOT HAPPEN IN MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA, RHODESIA, AND ZAMBIA. WE FOUGHT FOR OUR OWN FREEDOM AND ONLY RECEIVED THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE FROM OUR FRIENDS. WE WERE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR WINNING OUR INDEPENDENCE. SO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA WILL FACE THE PRIMARY TASK OF SHAPING THEIR OWN DESTINY AND TO ACCEPT THE INEVITABILITY OF CHANGE. WE HOPE IT WILL BE PEACEFUL CHANGE."

BURNS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: APARTHEID, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUSAKA02222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740306-0907
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741013/aaaaakwn.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA CALLS FOR CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, ZA, SF, XA, RH, (KAUNDA, KENNETH)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005